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comparative shortcomings of the best educated among us may be traced to several causes; but, as we are constrained to think, they are mainly owing to the fact that the highest civilization of America is communicated from without instead of being developed from within, and is therefore nerveless and unproductive.

ART. VII. — *Annals of the Town of Warren, with the Early History of St. George's, Broad Bay, and the Neighboring Settlements on the Waldo Patent.* By CYRUS EATON, A. M. Hallowell: Masters, Smith, & Co. 1851. 12mo. pp. 437.

THE town of Warren was incorporated in 1776. Its present historian, Mr. Eaton, does not state what we believe to be a fact, that it was the first settlement in Maine to which the Whigs of Massachusetts gave a corporate existence after throwing off their allegiance to the British crown. The question of forming into towns the territory east of Gorges's eastern boundary was one upon which the royal governors and the popular branch of the legislature seldom agreed for successive administrations; and one which remained undetermined at the commencement of the graver controversies of the Revolution. *This* instance, then, of the exercise of newly acquired sovereignty is entitled to remembrance; the more especially, since the act was, in some degree at least, political, the name of Warren being avowedly selected to do honor to the memory of the distinguished martyr of the 17th of June of the previous year.

The history of the *Muscongus*, as the Waldo Patent was originally called, is quite as peculiar as this incident in the annals of its oldest town, and is connected very intimately with the personal and political fortunes of several eminent persons. The country embraced in this Patent was not within the ancient limits either of Maine or of New England, but once formed a part of New France. Until the treaty of Ryswick, the entire territory, from the Kennebeck to the St. Croix, was in dispute between the two great powers, who,

for nearly a century and a half, struggled for the mastery of this hemisphere; nor did France finally relinquish her claims to it until the treaty of Utrecht.

The Muscongus Patent bears date as early as 1629. The original parchment is said to be still extant, and in the possession of the family of the late General Knox. The patentees were John Beauchamp, of London, and Thomas Leverett, of Boston in England; and their domain was vaguely described to be on the river Penobscot, having the Muscongus on the southwest, extending ten leagues northeast of the Penobscot, and ten leagues into the country. As defined more than a hundred years subsequently, and after much legislation and many angry contentions, the assignees of the patentees were confirmed in a quiet title to about one million of acres.

Immediate possession was taken by Beauchamp and Leverett, who sent over agents in the *Lyon*, a well known passenger ship of the Puritan times. But Charles the Second, soon after his restoration, created a province or government in Maine for his brother, the Duke of York, which was known until our Revolution by the name of *Sagadahock*, and which included the whole of the Muscongus. Whatever was the breach of faith of that monarch, in thus granting an immense tract of land not belonging even nominally to the crown, little harm was really done to the patentees; for when the Duke, as James the Second, abdicated the English throne, they were re-invested with all their former rights. But these rights were not of marketable value. It is not probable that Beauchamp ever received back a moiety of his actual expenditure. Whether he came to America, and had a personal care of his property, is uncertain. But Leverett arrived within three years after Winthrop, and *may* have been more fortunate than his associate. He became a man of some note himself; and, as the father of a worthy Governor of Massachusetts, and the ancestor of a very learned and accomplished President of Harvard University, he deserves an honorable mention in our annals.

At the decease of Leverett, the Muscongus seems to have passed entire to his son, the Governor just referred to, who, the better to effect settlements, divided the Patent into a sort of joint-stock company, of ten shares. The ten proprietors subsequently alienated two thirds of their property to twenty

associates ; and under their direction, block-houses and other defences were built for the protection of those whom they might induce to become settlers. Almost a century had now elapsed since the Patent had been issued ; but the country on every hand was an unbroken wilderness. Between Georgetown on the Kennebec, and Annapolis in Nova Scotia, there was not so much as one inhabited dwelling, and but a single fish-house.

Still the thirty proprietors were untiring in their exertions to people the Patent. Finally, as the result of years of labor, they engaged upwards of one hundred families to remove there ; when Dunbar, a proud, wicked, and beggarly Colonel in the British army, who had procured the office of surveyor-general of the King's woods in Maine, revived, — by royal authority, as he said, — the dormant Patent of Sagadahock, or Duke of York's province, and forbade them to execute the enterprise. His designs tended to disturb the title not only to the Muscongus, but to several other Patents ; and to defeat his plans, petitioners thronged the legislative halls of Massachusetts. The papers which were presented by alarmed patentees, and by claimants under them, and the reports which, in the course of the controversy, were prepared by the committees of the General Court, were transmitted to England, to be there laid before the Board of Trade. Meantime, the hated Dunbar suffered every indignity from those whom he oppressed ; and his removal was earnestly solicited by petitions on the part of the considerate, and by demand of a military force to arrest him, on the part of others.

In the exigency, Samuel Waldo, of Falmouth, now Portland, who had acquired a large interest in the Muscongus, went to England, to counteract the rapacity of Dunbar. He was successful. A royal order was issued, which revoked the surveyor's authority ; and honest men were again allowed to pursue their avocations in peace. In parting with Dunbar, we may add, that the land quarrels, to which he gave rise, occupied the attention of the legislature of Massachusetts long after the Revolution, and were not, indeed, brought to a close till the year 1811, and then, only by the adoption of measures which are to be justified only by the necessities of the case.

The immediate troubles about the title being at an end,

Waldo became desirous of managing the Muscongus according to his own judgment ; and having procured a division, so as to hold his interest in severalty, the Patent thenceforth took his name. He was a man who left his mark wherever he went ; and under his supervision, the whole aspect of affairs was at once changed. Though his schemes, his life-long, were interrupted by Indian wars and difficulties with the patentees of adjacent lands, he accomplished, we think, more than any individual projector of his time, who relied solely on private resources and personal influence and exertion. In his day, a voyage to Europe by an American colonist was a momentous undertaking ; but he crossed the Atlantic, it is said, no less than fifteen times. By extensive advertisements of the liberality of his terms, and especially by the excitement created through the representations of one of his sons, who went to Europe for the express purpose of procuring settlers, he soon attracted public attention to his domain ; and, in a brief period, emigrants who had already arrived in America, and others who came directly from Scotland and Germany, founded several towns, which have long been among the most flourishing and commercial in Maine.

Waldo died in 1759. Governor Pownall, contemplating a fortification on the Penobscot, and accompanied by Waldo, with a sufficient party, ascended that river to the head of its tide waters, and proceeded, as was supposed, to the northerly line of the Patent. There, Waldo exclaimed, while surveying the ground, "Here is my bound," and dropped dead, on the site of the present city of Bangor. He was sixty-three years of age ; and the Governor, to commemorate the event, buried a leaden plate, bearing an appropriate inscription.

Waldo may be denominated a colonial nobleman. His military character is entitled to great commendation. He and Pepperell command the only regiments in Maine ; and when the memorable expedition against Louisbourg was projected, they were selected as the chief officers. Waldo was created a brigadier-general, and made second in rank ; and he was successful in enlisting the settlers on the Patent. In the same war, a force of fifteen hundred men was placed under his command, to operate against Crown Point ;

but the smallpox and other obstacles kept his brigade at home.

The Patent now descended to his children, Samuel, Francis, and Ralph, and a daughter, who married Thomas Fluker, Secretary of Massachusetts. Samuel, according to the laws of descent of the time, inherited a double share; but he sold his interest to Fluker, who also acquired other rights, and became a very large proprietor. At the Revolution, the heirs, including Fluker, being Loyalists, the whole domain, except an inconsiderable part already sold to settlers, was confiscated, and passed to the Commonwealth.

But it soon became private property again, as one estate; General Henry Knox, Chief of Artillery in the army of the Revolution, having married the daughter of Fluker, was able to obtain this vast possession on easy terms. On retiring from the cabinet of Washington, towards the close of the last century, General Knox became a permanent resident on the Patent; and erecting a mansion, then unequalled in Maine for size and elegance, he lived in a style of princely hospitality, entertaining his old companions in arms, both native and foreign.

During the General's life, the Patent was one of the busiest, and seemingly one of the most flourishing, tracts of country in all New England. He engaged in almost every imaginable enterprise on the land and the sea; and employed large bodies of men to carry out and execute his plans. His expenditures were immense, and even ruinous. Though he disposed of several townships to parties in Massachusetts, who became infected with the mania for speculations that followed the Revolution, and who invested in eastern lands, and a large number of lots were sold to individual settlers, a great estate remained at his decease. But as it was encumbered with mortgages to the late Samuel Parkman, Esq., of Boston, and with other claims, his heirs—a son and two daughters—derived but little benefit from it.

Such are the outlines of the proprietary history of the Waldo Patent down to the early part of the present century. Warren, as we have seen, is the oldest town within its limits; and it is worthy of remark here, that no less than ten other towns, subsequently incorporated, commemorate the names either of English Whigs, or American "Rebels" of distinc-

tion,—a circumstance, probably, without example in the same extent of country in the United States,* and of some significance, when we remember that its owners were proscribed and banished as Tories.

We pass to the Annals of Warren. This town is situated on both sides of the St. George's river, and contains nearly 30,000 acres. It is now the eighth town in population, and the sixth in property, in the county of Lincoln. The manufacture of lime and the building of vessels are among its principal branches of industry. The first houses erected there were built of logs; generally they had cellar holes, or un-walled cellars, under them. Few contained more than one room, and all had fireplaces of stone, with a chimney built of strips of wood laid up cobhouse fashion, the interstices being filled with clay-mortar. The first legal highway was laid out in 1784. When the assessors apportioned the first tax, they required the wealthiest settlers to pay a pistareen each. For many years, the town meetings were held at the dwelling-house of the town clerk. Until 1793, no mail was carried east of Wiscasset, at which place, letters and newspapers were received from Portland twice in a month. No public school was opened prior to the Revolution; but a public library was founded in 1792, and so rapid was the growth of the town, and so desirous were the people to provide for the education of their children, that they procured an act for the incorporation of an academy as early as the year 1808.

In the day of log houses, of suffering and destitution, and indeed to a period somewhat later, the religious teachers of Warren were a strange set. One was "a priest, prince, and military commander." A second left his wife in Germany, seduced the wife of another man, a woman of great beauty, and brought her and his own daughter to America, where he was both clergyman and quack doctor. The third was a still greater rascal than the second. This wolf in sheep's clothing, like his predecessor, abandoned a wife in Europe, and, after circulating a story of her decease, married a second time. His first spouse followed him, accompanied by her

*Hampden, of ship-money memory, and Lord Camden. Generals Warren, Lincoln, Thomas, and Knox, Lieutenant-Governor Cushing, and Colonel John Brooks, of Massachusetts; General James Jackson, of Georgia; James Monroe, of Virginia; and the illustrious Washington.

daughter, and for a while was under the protection of the celebrated Witherspoon, President of Princeton College. The wronged woman finally found her faithless husband at his own home, and her first interview with him occurred in presence of her successor. He was confounded. "Dinna ye cry, Johnny," said she, "it's yer ain loving wife ye've been mourning for sae long." The parties attempted to excuse themselves by saying that they supposed she was dead. "Yes," she tauntingly answered, "you hoped I was, at the very time you were pasting my letters into your bairns' bonnets."

The people of Warren were good Whigs in the Revolution. They furnished one of the "Indians" who threw over the tea in Boston, in 1773; and in every part of the subsequent contest, supplied their full share of troops for the continental service. There were Tories among them, but only two actually abandoned their homes to join the royal forces. Mr. Eaton gives some amusing extracts from the town records, which illustrate both the scholarship and the vigilance of the ruling powers.

We take leave of the *Annals of Warren*, commending it to our readers as one of the best town histories we have ever examined. Mr. Eaton says, in his Preface, that "the form of annals was chosen as best calculated to give a panoramic picture of the succession and contemporaneous steps by which the settlements advanced, and affairs moved on, towards their present condition;" but we are not quite sure that the division of a historical work into subjects and chapters is not preferable to the fragmentary and broken narrative unavoidable in the observance of strict chronological order. Our sympathy for the condition of the author would exempt his work from severe criticism, were there serious defects to palliate; but he needs no indulgence. He has performed his task faithfully and well. The main text occupies three hundred and fifty pages. A genealogical table, of upwards of sixty pages, with tables of highways, town valuations at different periods, lists of the principal town officers, magistrates, &c., complete the volume. To the people for whom it was specially written, it cannot fail to be an acceptable work.

The circumstances under which this volume was prepared for the press deserve notice. Mr. Eaton is a native of Fra-

mingham, Massachusetts, and has now nearly attained his three score years and ten. Self-taught, he qualified himself to teach, and was preceptor of the Warren Academy for thirteen years, retiring in 1843. The *Annals* are the fruit of six years of labor; and during the whole period, the author has been blind, and dependent upon an invalid daughter, whose modesty has forbid any allusion to her services. The father dictated, the daughter,—confined almost literally to her chair by a painful disease which deprives her of the free use of her hands,—was his amanuensis. The kind services, in the way of counsel and encouragement, of the Assistant Librarian of Harvard University, and of other friends, are acknowledged in proper terms by Mr. Eaton. But the aid which he could receive from those whose sympathies had been awakened in his behalf was necessarily small; and the fact that the invalids toiled through six long years upon this humble but useful task, still remains to command our admiration. A friend, speaking of Mr. Eaton, says, “He is always cheerful; I have never heard him complain about becoming blind; he *has* spoken of his want of sight as an inconvenience.”

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- ART. VIII. — 1. *Newfoundland in 1842.* By SIR RICHARD HENRY BONNYCASTLE. London. 1842.
2. *The Progress of America, from the Discovery by Columbus to the year 1846.* By JOHN MACGREGOR. London. 1847. 2 vols.
3. *New Brunswick; with notes for Emigrants.* By ABRAHAM GESNER. London. 1847.
4. *Some Particulars of the Commercial Progress of the Colonial Dependencies of the United Kingdom during the twenty years, 1827–1846.* By J. Z. DAWSON. London. 1849.
5. *Canada; its Financial Position and Resources.* By the Hon. FRANCIS HINCKS, M. P. P., Member of the Executive Council, and Inspector-General of the Province. London. 1849.